



02-10-00

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Key Docket No. ECO530/4-2
Date February 9, 2000

From

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2300 First City Tower
1001 Fannin
Houston, Texas 77002
713/758-2222



PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

"Express Mail" label no. **EM522392815US**

Date of Deposit: February 9, 2000

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express "Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

By:

Julie Willie

Printed/Typed Name: Julie Willie

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is a(n):

(X) Utility

(X) Original patent application,

Inventor(s): **Manjit S. Chowdhary and Walter M. White**
For: **IMPROVED HYDRATION OF GUAR GUM POWDER**

Enclosed are:

1. ☒ 20 pages of written description, claims and abstract.
2. ☒ 2 sheets of drawings.
3. ☒ Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney.
 - (a) ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
4. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet and document(s)) of the invention to Economy Mud Products Company
5. ☒ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27.
6. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations.
7. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
8. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard *(should be specifically itemized)*
9. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) *(if foreign priority is claimed)*
10. ☐ Other: _____

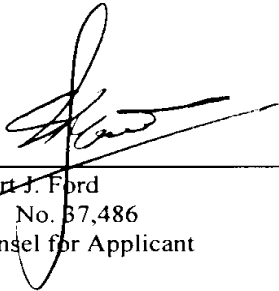
11.

Utility Fee Calculation

CLAIMS AS FILED				
Fee for:	Entity		Amount	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Basic fee	\$345.00	\$690.00	\$345.00	
Each independent claim in excess of 3	1x \$39.00	x \$78.00	39.00	
Each claim* in excess of 20	20 x \$9.00	x \$18.00	180.00	
Multiple dependent claim (one-time fee)	\$130.00	\$260.00		
*Including the total number of claims to which direct reference is made in all multiple dependent claims			TOTAL FILING FEE	\$564.00

Method of Fee Payment

14. ☒ A check in the amount of \$564.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
15. ☒ A check in the amount of \$40.00 to cover the assignment recordal fee is enclosed.
16. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 22-0365 in the total amount of the filing fee and the assignment recordation fee, if any. A duplicate of this Transmittal Letter is enclosed.
17. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the enclosed fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16, or to charge any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365.



Stuart J. Ford
Reg. No. 37,486
Counsel for Applicant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- ☒ In re application of Applicant or Patentee: Manjit S. Chowdhary and Walter M. White
- ☐ Serial or Patent No.:
- ☐ Filed or Issued on:

Title: IMPROVED HYDRATION OF GUAR GUM POWDER

**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby state that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
- ☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

Name of Small Business Concern	Economy Mud Products Company
Address of Small Business Concern	435 E. Anderson Road Houston, Texas 77047

I hereby state that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern, as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office under Sections 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third-party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby state that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to, and remain with, the small business concern identified above, with regard to the invention described in

- ☒ the specification filed herewith, with title as listed above.
- ☐ the application identified above.
- ☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c), if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each such person, concern or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization exists.
- ☐ Each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

Name _____
Address _____

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small business entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

- ☒ I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Name of Person Signing:
Title of Person if Other Than Owner:
Address of Person Signing:

WALTER M. WHITE
VICE PRESIDENT
435 E. Anderson Road
Houston, Texas 77047

SIGNATURE: _____

Date: _____

Walt M. White

02/03/2000